

The Honorable Senator Eric Coleman and Representative Gerald Fox, Co-chairs of  
the Judiciary Committee

Date: March 22, 2011

Re: Raised Senate Bill SB1094

My name is Ron Schack, I am a concerned citizen testifying against this bill that will ban the possession of any magazine capable of holding more than 10 rounds. Currently, many Connecticut gun owners, including myself, own a pistol that allows for a "double-stack" magazine that fits directly into the grip of the pistol, and is sold standard with the pistol. These double stack magazines generally contain between 15 and 18 rounds, very close to the capacity of two eight round magazines, which would be allowable under the proposed legislation. If you carry a gun for defensive purposes, having a double-stack magazine allows you to carry just one magazine in the gun. You don't have to worry about carrying a second magazine if you do not wish to, and wonder about its whereabouts separate from the pistol itself.

Another point I would like to raise is that while possession of these magazines is made a felony, I am sure these magazines will continue to be made available to the underground market for criminals, thereby enlarging the already large disparity between legally armed private citizens and criminals armed with weapons of much greater capacity.

Finally, I do think there are reasonable limits to magazine capacity, and agree that some limit (perhaps somewhere between 20 and 30) makes considerably more sense and would not affect as many legal pistol owners who take their Glock or other high-capacity pistol to the range everyday.

Thank you for the opportunity to address this issue.

Ron Schack, Ph.D.

90 Engleside Terrace

Sandy Hook, CT 06482